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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/642,610	08/19/2003	Huang Chiu Fong	HUAN3207/Em	2816

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EXAMINER

RODRIGUEZ, JOSEPH C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3653

DATE MAILED: 02/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/642,610	FONG, HUANG CHIU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Joseph C. Rodriguez	3653	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 and 8-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5-7 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 19 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The listing of references in the specification (see e.g., p. 2 "Transmission Mechanism for Continuous Vacuum Forming Machine") is not a proper information disclosure statement. 37 CFR 1.98(b) requires a list of all patents, publications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office, and MPEP § 609.04(a) states, "the list may not be incorporated into the specification but must be submitted in a separate paper." Therefore, unless the references have been cited by the examiner on form PTO-892, they have not been considered.

Specification

The title of the invention is not descriptive (See ADS with IFW date of 8/19/03 listing title as METHOD OF WRITING DATA TO A LARGE BLOCK OF A FLASH MEMORY CELL). A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 3, 4 and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hale (US 4,878,407).

Hale teaches a suction nozzle carrier table (Fig. 8-9) for use with a vacuum suction apparatus to suck work pieces, comprising:

a carrier (Fig. 8, 9 top surface), said carrier having a plurality of receiving holes (270) respectively connected to said vacuum suction apparatus (inherent); and

a plurality of vacuum nozzles respectively mounted in said receiving holes in flush with said carrier and adapted to suck work pieces upon operation of said vacuum suction apparatus (col. 7, ln. 42-col. 8, ln. 30; col. 5, ln. 9-col. 6, ln. 11), said vacuum nozzles each comprising a valve block (280), a valve element (ball 300) movably mounted in said valve block and adapted to close/open said valve block, and spring members (308), said spring members supporting said valve element in said valve block and adapted to force said valve element to close said valve block (col. 7, ln. 42-col. 8, ln. 30; col. 5, ln. 9-col. 6, ln. 11), wherein said valve block has an outer annular groove (below flange 286) extended around the periphery thereof and a gasket ring (288) mounted in said outer annular groove and stopped against the periphery of one receiving hole of said carrier.

Claims 1, 4, 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Harrison et al. ("Harrison")(US 4,878,407).

Harrison teaches a suction nozzle carrier roll (Fig. 3-5, 10-13) for use with a vacuum suction apparatus to suck workpieces, comprising:

a carrier (22), said carrier having a plurality of receiving holes (102) respectively connected to said vacuum suction apparatus (42, 46); and

a plurality of vacuum nozzles (100, 104, 106) respectively mounted in said receiving holes in flush with said carrier and adapted to suck work pieces upon operation of said vacuum suction apparatus (Fig. 5; col. 5, ln. 12-50; col. 9, ln. 3-col. 12, ln. 17), said vacuum nozzles each comprising a valve block (Fig. 10-13, block 144), a valve element (ball 150) movably mounted in said valve block and adapted to close/open said valve block, and spring members (col. 9, ln. 19, teaching coil spring), said spring members supporting said valve element in said valve block and adapted to force said valve element to close said valve block (col. 9, ln. 3-col. 12, ln. 17 teaching roll used to convey object via suction).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hale (US 4,878,407) in view of Anander (US 2,910,265).

Hale as set forth above teaches all that is claimed except for expressly teaching said valve block with a plurality of air holes in a top side thereof. This feature, however, is well-known in the conveying arts. For instance, Anander teaches a conveying table

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with a plurality of openings (Fig. 1-3, openings 12 on top of ball valve 20). Moreover, this feature allows the suction carrier to convey delicate work pieces such as film (col. 1, ln. 60-col. 2, ln. 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Hale with a plurality of openings to be able to handle a broader variety of workpieces or to handle work pieces more delicately.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 5-7 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

Any references not explicitly discussed above but made of record are considered relevant to the prosecution of the instant application.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Joseph C Rodriguez** whose telephone number is **571-272-6942** (M-F, 9 am – 6 pm, EST).

The **Official** fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is **571-273-8300**.

The examiner's **UNOFFICIAL Personal fax number** is **571-273-6942**.

Further, information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system.

Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PMR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see

<http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>

Should you have questions on access to the Private PMR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at **866-217-9197** (Toll Free).

Alternatively, inquiries of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding can also be directed to the **Receptionist** whose telephone number is **571-272-6584** or to the Supervisory Examiner, Kathy Matecki, **571-272-6951**.

Signed by Examiner Joseph Rodriguez

jcr

February 13, 2006

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JR' or similar, written over a horizontal line.